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Inhibitory effect of alpha 2-macroglobulin on Vibrio vulnificus protease.

Miyoshi S, Shinoda S.

Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Okayama University.

Vibrio vulnificus, an etiologic agent of wound infections and septicemia in humans, elaborates a metalloprotease which is known to be an important virulence factor of the Vibrio. The proteolytic activity of V. vulnificus metalloprotease (VVP) toward casein and elastin was inhibited by alpha 2macroglobulin (alpha 2 M) at the molar ratio of 1:1, although partial activity was maintained. Permeability-enhancing and hemorrhagic activities were also inhibited, but the peptidase activity toward Z-Gly-Phe-NH2 was not reduced, even by an excess amount of alpha 2 M. VVP formed a complex with alpha 2 M through cleavage of the bait regions of all four alpha 2 M subunits and elicitation of conformational change of the alpha 2 M molecule, which resulted in entrapment of VVP in the alpha 2 M molecule. The peptidase activity of alpha 2 M-VVP complex was inhibited by lowmolecular-weight inhibitors such as phosphoramidon, but IgG antibody against VVP failed to neutralize its peptidase activity. Of human plasma proteins, alpha 2 M was the only inhibitor for VVP. These findings indicate that VVP produced during V. vulnificus infection is inactivated by plasma alpha 2 M that leaks from the vascular system.

PMID: 2478526 [PubMed - indexed for MEDLINE]

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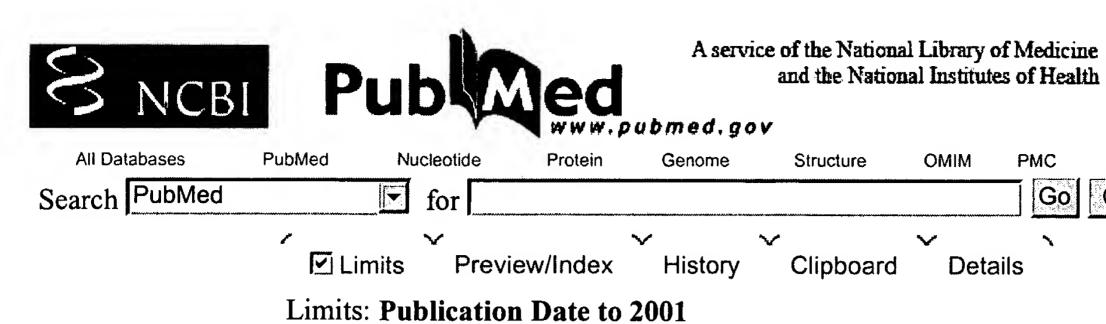
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☐ 1: Zhonghua Yi Xue Za Zhi. 2001 Nov 25;81(22):1390-1. Related Articles, Links

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[Clinical significance of the novel tumor marker CYFRA21-1 in patients with esophageal cancer

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Wang T, Zhang W, Liu Y.

Department of Thoracic Surgery, Peking Union Hospital, Peking Union Medical Collage, Beijing 100730, China.

OBJECTIVE: To study the clinical significance of the novel tumor marker--CYFRA21-1 in patients with esophageal cancer. METHODS: The CYFRA21-1 level in serum of 84 patients with a definite diagnosis of esophageal cancer was examined 10 days before and after operation by ELISA. A 3 years' follow-up was conducted to the survival of patients. RESULTS: (1) The CYFRA21-1 level was > 3.3 ng/ml in 72.6% of the patients (61/84). (2) The serum CYFRA21-1 level decreased significantly after operation in patients at stage III or with high differentiation (P < 0.05). (3) The difference between pre- and post-operative serum CYFRA21-1 levels was statistically significant in patients who had undegone radical operation, and was not in patients who had undergone palliative operation. (4) In addition to stage (P < 0.05) and type of operation (P < 0.05), the difference of CYFRA21-1 level before and after operationwas closely related to the prognosis (P < 0.05). CONCLUSION: CYFRA21-1 is a useful marker in diagnosis and prediction of prognosis of esophageal cancer.

PMID: 11930636 [PubMed - indexed for MEDLINE]

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	infection		
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